

Subject: Councilmember Cedillo's E-Newsletter 1.24.14

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GREETING FROM COUNCILMEMBER GIL CEDILLO

Friends,

This week observed Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday on Monday. We heard and approved legislation to move our City forward by supporting federal legislation for local hiring practices in development projects, and we continued to move forward with economic development in CD1. We supported a resolution at the State level, similar to the one I introduced at the City, to end deportations. We introduce you to Team Cedillo's Melinda Ramos-Alatorre and say goodbye to Jose Antonio Rodriguez Sr.



Gilbert A. Cedillo
Councilmember, District 1

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

ALERT: HUD Puts the City on Notice



(Photo Credit: Yahoo)

HUD has determined that the City is out of compliance with CDBG regulations in its use of the Community Based Development Organizations (CBDO) funding category. HUD has advised that CBDO projects, as currently structured, are not to be extended beyond the contract end date of March 31, 2014. HUD's decision impacts \$18.5 million in projects and is devastating to the provision of services to low to moderate income communities.

The City's Housing and Community Investment Department (HCID) will be sending out notices to effected organizations with next steps.

Examples of effected groups include, but are not limited to:

- Family Source Centers
- Central City Neighborhood Partners (CCNP)
- Los Angeles Conservation Corp
- Youth Policy Institute

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Olivia Mitchell at (213) 744-9703 or at Olivia.Mitchell@lacity.org.

Support for Local Hire in Transportation (HR 3620)



(Photo Source: UT San Diego)

On Wednesday the City Council approved support for H.R.3620, the "Local Hire Act." This act was introduced on November 25, 2013 by Congresswoman Karen Bass to allow transit agencies like the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority to prioritize hiring local residents for highway and transit projects. As it stands, federal regulations currently prohibit transit agencies that receive any federal assistance from implementing local hire policies for construction and operations projects.

This is important because transit agencies have the potential to spur job creation in local communities and limiting these transit agencies from being able to adopt local hiring policies when making hiring decisions hinders their ability to generate job growth. The "Local Hire Act" will allow state and local transit agencies to more easily generate jobs in the very counties and states where their transportation projects are located, while preserving competition and cost effectiveness. Transportation agencies will also have the flexibility to focus their hiring in low-income and underemployed neighborhoods by applying geographically targeted preferences.

New Mixed-Use Development in Central City West



(Photo Source: Canfield Development, Inc.)

This week, the City Planning Commission approved a new mixed-use development which will revitalize a longstanding vacant blighted property on West Seventh Street in CD1's Central City West neighborhood.

Canfield Development, Inc., which has built residential projects through the City's westside over the last 20 years, proposes \$20 million in private investment to create an attractive seven-story building with 87 apartment units above consisting of 80 market-rate units and 7 very-low income units (each with a 100 square foot balcony). The building will also boast a gym, recreation room and deck, extensive landscaping, and 1,500 square feet of ground-level retail space.

Councilmember Cedillo said, "Our office welcomes the private investment which will introduce a mix of high-quality market-rate and affordable housing units and commercial space, and serve as an economic catalyst along the 7th Street corridor." The site is near the historic Mayflower Hotel and a former theater originally built in 1913 which will soon be converted into a new entertainment venue, all within walking distance of Downtown's L.A. Live and Los Angeles Convention Center.

Protect Our Families Press Conference



(Photo Credit: Kris Ortega)

Under the banner of PROTECT OUR FAMILIES CAMPAIGN, Councilmember Gil Cedillo passed a resolution at the City level, which calls on President Obama to stop the separation of families due to immigration deportations. The resolution asks the President to expand the deferred action program to all undocumented in the U.S. until comprehensive immigration reform is realized. Senator Ron Calderon (D-30) introduced a similar resolution in the CA State Senate along with the Latino Caucus. The city resolution began a ripple effect that will soon reach every corner of California and every state in the United States. Sacramento, San Francisco, Santa Ana, New York and Chicago will soon introduce a resolution asking the President to do the same.

FIELD UPDATE

Keep It Clean Campaign Update



(Photo Credit: Bureau of Sanitation)

Last year we set out on a campaign to transform the First Council District by taking care of fundamental issues affecting the district, trash and bulky items. Since the inception of our 'Keep It Clean' campaign we have cleaned up 530 tons of trash and 284 alleys. We spent our first 6 months cleaning up to lay the foundation for what we believe will be the future of our communities; clean streets. It is a new year and we are starting phase 2. We have already alerted our constituents through letters in their mailboxes. The Bureau of sanitation has partnered with us in distributing flyers, but we believe in order to be successful we must now enter an aggressive education campaign. We will have a kick off announcing phase 2 in the next few weeks.

Temple Beaudry Clean Up



(Photo Credit: Ana Gomez)

On Martin Luther King Day community members of Temple Beaudry got together to clean their neighborhood. With the sponsorship of CD1 they were able to gather couches, Christmas trees and swept the areas around Court Street. We commend these residents and Chente Rodriguez for organizing the event and showing the important community participation has in our 'Keep it Clean' campaign! If you are interested in organizing a community clean up in the areas of Temple Beaudry, Westlake, MacArthur Park, Pico Union or University Park please contact your Field Deputy Ana Gomez at (323)550-1538.

NEWS UPDATE

MLK Celebration



(Photo Credit: Yahoo)

On Monday we observed the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. (MLK). MLK was an American pastor, activist, humanitarian, and leader in the African-American Civil Rights Movement. He was best known for his role in the advancement of civil rights using nonviolent civil disobedience based on his Christian beliefs.

Much of Councilmember Cedillo's legislative work for immigrant rights was fueled by the work of MLK.

COFEM Driver's License Bill Information Session



(Photo Credit: Sergio Infanzon)

Councilmember Gil Cedillo attended an event last Sunday organized by COFEM to discuss the next steps for the Driver's Licence Bill. More than 150 people gathered at Pico Plaza to get information and learn about the process and requirements to get a driver's license in CA. The panel was formed by the following individuals with special participation by Councilmember Cedillo.

- Anabella Bastida, Objective of the Forum - Executive Director, COFEM
- Gil Cedillo, Next Steps, Councilmember at City of Los Angeles
- Reshma Shamasunder, Implementation of AB 60 – Executive Director of CIPC
- Spokesperson from the House of Representation of Mexico Speaking in the Support for Documentation
- Juan Carlos Mendoza, Support from the Mexican Consulate - Consul of Mexico in Los Angeles

During the presentation, Councilmember Cedillo took a picture of the public attending the event and sent it to Governor Brown highlighting the interest of the public to learn about the process. Within minutes, Governor Brown replied with a positive message, sending his regards and support. Driver's licenses are on their way.

Getting to Know Team Cedillo: Melinda Ramos-Alatorre



(Photo Credit: Melinds Ramos-Alatorre)

Name: Melinda Ramos-Alatorre

What do you do for CD1?

Field Deputy for the neighborhoods of Angelino Heights, Chinatown, Elysian Park, Highland Park, Solano Canyon, and Victor Heights

Where were you born and raised?

Born at White Memorial in Pasadena and raised in East LA (actual unincorporated East LA, not Boyle Heights) and in Eagle Rock.

How'd you get your start in Public Service?

I began at the ripe old age of 10 volunteering for my local city council race. We lost, but I loved the experience. When I started high school, I volunteered for another council race for service hours and fell in love with the work. The impact and momentum I felt on the ground during the campaign trail was truly inspiring. While I started as a theater major, I still remained active in politics and eventually realized my passion for social justice was stronger than anything else.

Favorite place to visit in CD1?

Dodger Stadium. Going to games as a kid with my family, I don't think going to the Stadium will ever get old to me.

What's the best kept secret in CD1?

There are way too many! From the arts community in Highland Park to the San Conrado Church in Solano Canyon, each neighborhood has something special to offer.

What is your favorite P.E.A.C.E. issue are and why?

I believe that Arts & Culture is the core of our diversity as people and as a community. Being

able to provide opportunities for the youth around Arts & Culture will help shape everything else. That being said, every part of PEACE is all inter-connected.

If you could solve one major issue in CD1 what would it be?

I would solve the gang issues. It all starts with the youth. Creating an educated workforce begins in our schools with our youth. Providing opportunity also inherently serves as a preventative measure as well.

What do people not know about you?

I would say it's the fact that I eat every 2 hours, but if you've sat in a meeting with me, I'm sure you've witnessed me grab a snack out of my purse every once in a while. I guess I can say that I once had a dream of being a regular cast member on Saturday Night Live.

Getting LA Back to Work



(Photo Credit: Getting LA Back 2 Work)

Getting LA Back 2 Work is a federally funded program offering up to \$10,000 for training to qualified candidates. There is HELP available specifically for employees who were either: 1) laid-off or 2) laid-off but returned to work with a loss in wages from one of the companies listed at www.wiblacity.org/b2w.

Supportive services (bus tokens, work clothes, tools, child care, etc.) and job placement services are also offered.

Services are at NO COST to you! To qualify you must:

- Have a valid CA ID/License & Social Security Card, or a valid US Passport
- If not a US Citizen, Right-to-Work documents/Permanent Residency Card (Green Card)
- Unemployment Insurance documents (EDD); Lay-off Notice (if applicable)
- Be registered with Selective Services (for males born after January 1, 1960)

To find out if you qualify, visit: www.wiblacity.org/b2w.

IN MEMORIUM

Jose Antonio Rodriguez

Jose was born July 16, 1944 in Vicente Guerrero, Durango, Mexico to his parents, Jose and Maria Ana Rodriguez. He was the third of nine children. He immigrated to the United States in 1968 at the age of 24 to join his oldest sister in North Hollywood and to pursue the American dream of a better life. He applied for legal residency that was finally obtained in 1973.

Jose worked in various factory jobs until he obtained his driver's license and fell in love with truck driving and the open road that allowed him to travel throughout the United States. His truck driving career ended in the late 1980's due to a work related disability but he never stopped loving the freedom he got from driving.

He was married twice and had one son from each marriage. His sons Jose and Juvenal had separate childhoods but as adults were united by a renewed commitment to strengthen their family, a lesson his sons valued immensely and shared with their children. Jose did not finish high school but believed in getting a good education and pushed his sons to attend college. When his son Jose started working in politics Jose was proud and often asked questions regarding City Hall news stories.

Jose enjoyed a good poker game, a juicy In-N-Out hamburger, and listening to his favorite songs from Vicente Fernandez. He quit smoking cigarettes and drinking alcohol 8 years ago but he never quit believing in his Dodgers or loving this country that gave him so many opportunities.

Over the past few years Jose started having kidney problems and last April he was diagnosed with esophageal cancer. His medical team and family hoped for the best and Jose was adherent to his appointments and treatments that ended in November. Unfortunately, this month the cancer spread, his major organs shut down, and he lost his battle at Holy Cross Hospital in Mission Hills.

Jose is survived by his wife Engracia, his son Jose, his grandchildren Tonito, Justin, and Jenna, his sisters Lupe, Amparo, Socorro, Yolanda, and Lola, and his brothers Neilo and Anastacio.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Free Income Tax Preparation And Family Resource Fair
Saturday, February 8th, 2014
8:30 AM - 1:30 PM
California State University, Los Angeles
Salazar Hall
5151 State University Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90032



Legal Citizenship Workshop
Saturday February 8th, 2014
Appointments Available from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Ramona Hall Community Center
4580 N. Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, CA 90065
(213)385-7800 X152
asantos@carecen-la.org

L.A. Chinatown Firecracker 5/10K Run/Walk & Bike Ride
Saturday, February 22nd, 2014 at 9:00 AM
Sunday, February 23rd, 2014 at 8:00 AM
943 North Broadway
Los Angeles, CA 90032
www.firecracker10k.org

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